



THOMAS L. GARTHWAITE, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer

FRED LEAF
Chief Operating Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
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August 1, 2002

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Thomas L. Garthwaite, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer

SUBJECT: **SERVICE REDUCTIONS**

On January 29, 2002, the Department presented to the Board a strategic plan that outlined an array of options for restructuring the County's health care system in light of significant budget deficits. On June 19, 2002, your Board approved the Department's initial recommendations regarding the redesign of the Department and the steps to be taken to address its fiscal deficit.

As required by California Health and Safety Code, Section 1442.5 (Beilenson Act), notice of the recommended service reductions relative to the health centers and the conversion of High Desert Hospital to a Multi-service Ambulatory Care Center will be posted at DHS facilities no later than August 6, 2002. Please note, although not required by the Beilenson Act, based on the advice of County Counsel the Department is posting the proposed Public Health service reductions.

Attached for your review are copies of the Beilenson notices that will be posted at each of the facilities. In addition, your Board is scheduled to hold a public hearing on Tuesday, August 20, 2002, at 11:00 a.m., to afford members of the public an opportunity to be heard regarding the potential impact of the proposed reductions or closures.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

TLG/da

Attachments

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors